

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A putting aid for use with a putting hole having opposite margins and a golf club having a golf club shaft, the putting aid comprising: an elongated body having a longitudinal axis and a first end and a second end; a level mounted to the elongated body, the level having a longitudinal level axis parallel to, or coincident with, the longitudinal body axis and a bubble indicator for indicating orientation of the longitudinal body and level axes with respect to a level orientation; an attachment mechanism positioned on the elongated body for detachably holding the golf club shaft of the golf club in a position wherein the club shaft is perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the elongated body, the golf club shaft being completely removable from the attachment mechanism; a plurality of calibrations on the elongated body, the plurality of calibrations being spaced apart from one another a plurality of predetermined distances corresponding to the distance from a hole when two of the calibrations are lined up with the opposite margins of the hole[.];

the attachment mechanism comprising a notch in the elongated member, the notch including first and second opposite side walls positioned to embrace the golf club shaft there between in a direction that is perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the elongated member, a first compressible member and a second compressible member being mounted to the first and second opposite side walls respectively for compressing and frictionally engaging the golf club shaft there between in response to the golf club shaft being fitted within the notch.

Claims 2-3 (Cancelled).

Claim 4 (Original): The putting aid according to claim 1 wherein the elongated body includes an elongated calibration portion, the plurality of calibrations being located on the elongated calibration portion.

Claim 5 (Original): The putting aid according to claim 4 wherein the elongated calibration portion includes an elongated calibration portion axis parallel to the longitudinal level axis.

Claim 6 (Original): The putting aid according to claim 5 wherein a viewing opening is positioned between the level and the elongated calibration portion.

Claim 7 (Original): The putting aid according to claim 1 wherein the level is comprised of an elongated transparent tube having a gas bubble therein.

Claim 8 (Original): The putting aid according to claim 1 wherein the attachment mechanism comprises a C-shaped notch in the elongated body, the notch having a pair of spaced apart side walls, an inner notch wall and an open end sized to receive the golf club shaft between the pair of spaced apart side walls.

Claim 9 (Original): A method for using a putting aid to determine the distance of a golf hole from a golf ball, both of which are spaced apart on the surface of a green, the golf hole having first and second oppositely positioned margins, the putting aid comprising an elongated body having a longitudinal axis and a first end and a second end, a level mounted to the elongated body for determining when the longitudinal axis of the elongated body is horizontal, an attachment mechanism in the elongated body sized to receive a shaft of a golf club and positioned to hold the golf club shaft perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the elongated body, and a plurality of calibrations on the elongated body, the plurality of calibrations being spaced apart from one another a plurality of predetermined distances corresponding to the distance from a hole when two of the calibrations are lined up with the first and second opposite margins of the hole; the method comprising:

lining up a first one of the plurality of calibrations with a first one of the margins of the hole;
lining up a second one of the plurality of calibrations with the opposite margin of the hole while maintaining the first one of the plurality of calibrations lined up with the first margin of the hole;

determining the distance of the ball from the hole by reading the distance between the first and second calibrations.

Claim 10 (Original): The method according to claim 9 wherein the elongated body includes an elongated calibrated portion on which the plurality of calibrations are placed, the step of lining up the first one of the plurality of calibrations comprising lining up one end of the elongated calibration portion with the first one of the margins of the hole.

Claim 11 (Original): The method according to claim 10 wherein the elongated body includes an opening adjacent the elongated calibration portion, the method further comprising viewing the hole through the opening in the elongated body.

Claim 12 (Original): The method according to claim 9 and further comprising, holding the elongated body at arm's length away from the eye during the two lining up steps and the determining step.

Claim 13 (Original): A method for using a putting aid to determine the slope of a green surface between a first point and a second point on the surface of the green, the putting aid comprising an elongated body having a longitudinal axis and a first end and a second end, a level mounted to the elongated body for determining when the longitudinal axis of the elongated body is horizontal, the level having a bubble therein and a center indicia indicating a level orientation of the elongated member when the bubble is centered with respect to the center indicia, and a plurality of calibrations on the elongated body, the plurality of calibrations being spaced apart from one another a plurality of predetermined distances corresponding to the distance from a hole when two of the calibrations are lined up with the opposite margins of the hole; the method comprising:

positioning the elongated body between the eye of the user and the first and second points

whereby the first point is left of the second point;

aligning one edge of the elongated body with both the first point and the second point;

determining the slope of the green from the first point to the second point by observing if the bubble is left of the center indicia, centered with respect to the center indicia or right of the centered indicia.

Claim 14 (Original): The method according to claim 13 wherein an attachment mechanism comprises a notch in the elongated body, the method further comprising placing the shaft of a golf club within the notch so that the shaft of the golf club extends perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the elongated body, whereby the shaft of the golf club indicates the slope of the green from the first point to the second point by whether or not the shaft is angled toward the first point from the bottom of the shaft to the top, toward the second point from the bottom of the shaft to the top or straight up and down between the first and second points.

Claim 15 (Original): The method according to claim 14 and further comprising frictionally engaging the shaft between first and second side members on opposite sides of the notch while placing the shaft within the notch so as to attach the elongated body to the notch.

Claim 16 (Original): The method according to claim 13 and further comprising positioning the elongated member to the side of a line extending between a ball on the green and a hole on the green, the steps of lining up the edge of the elongated body with the first and second points respectively comprising lining up the edge with the hole and the ball respectively.

Claim 17 (Original): The method according to claim 13 wherein the step of lining up the edge of the elongated member with the first and second points comprises lining up the edge of the elongated member with a hole on the green and an imaginary point on the green, respectively so as to determine the slope of the green to the left or right of a line between the golf ball and the hole.